

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

# INFORMATION REPORT

**COUNTRY** Poland

**SUBJECT** Economic Development

25X1A

DATE DISTR. 12 March 1948

NO. OF PAGES 1

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**SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.**

· 25X1X

1. The Government, in a campaign to mobilize Poland's full economic reserves, is stressing the following:
  - (a) Conservation of fuel;
  - (b) More efficient utilization of production machinery;
  - (c) Reallocation of labor to eliminate local unemployment, which exists despite a general shortage of manpower; and
  - (d) Avoidance of employment in non-productive enterprises.
2. The PPR has tried various means for stimulating industrial production. Workers' councils and competitions were brought into operation with limited success. The "Stakhanov system" is being introduced now.
3. Strikes have been suppressed ruthlessly by the police and finally outlawed by the EU II. Absenteeism and tardiness, however, are still prevalent. During September 1947 an average of 40 thousand miners were absent daily out of a total of 143 thousand employed. During the same period absentees among the 84 thousand steel workers averaged eight thousand.
4. Increases in production and in the quantity of raw materials available have thrown more goods on the Polish market and brought a noticeable reduction in the price of some industrial products. Also helping to drive some prices downward is the Government's obvious determination to compete with private enterprise. PCR's Government-owned stores were recently ordered to lower prices.
5. There is a constant shortage of milk, butter, and flour. During the first half of November 1947 the authorities prohibited sales of butter and milk in privately owned stores. "Extras" milk, honey, coffee, tea, cosmetics, etc, have appeared on the market.

end

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